

CLAIMS

What is claimed:

1. A method for separating water from a water/oil emulsion comprising passing said emulsion through a bed of granules comprised of a super absorbent
5 polymer.
2. The method of claim 1 wherein said oil is a reclaimed motor oil.
3. The method of claim 1 wherein said granules are enclosed in a
10 cyclindrical column.
4. The method of claim 1 wherein said bed of granules is agitated while said emulsion is passing therethrough.
- 15 5. The method of claim 1 including the step of heating said emulsion before passing said emulsion through said bed.
6. The method of claim 4 wherein said bed of granules is agitated by passing said oil upwardly therethrough.
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7. A method for separating water from a water/motor oil emulsion comprising heating said emulsion and then passing said emulsion upwardly through a bed of granules comprised of a super absorbent polymer.
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8. An apparatus for separating water from a water/oil emulsion comprising:
a column containing granules comprised of a bed of super absorbent
polymeric material and having an inlet and an outlet for passing said emulsion through
said bed.

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9. The apparatus of claim 8 wherein said inlet is located below said outlet so
that emulsion flowing through said column flows upwardly through said column.

10. The apparatus of claim 9 comprising a plurality of columns connected in
10 parallel between a source of emulsion and a retained oil outlet.

11. The apparatus of claim 8 wherein said apparatus includes an auger
positioned in the interior of said column.

15 12. The apparatus of claim 9 wherein said bed of granules is a fluidized bed.

13. The apparatus of claim 8 including an outlet for removing granules from
said column and an inlet for adding granules to said column.